Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 KIGALI 00958 071540Z 53 ACTION ST-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 AID-05 PER-03 /018 W

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R 071510Z DEC 76 FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4414

UNCLAS KIGALI 958

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ATRN. RW

SUBJECT: SHIPMENT OF PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS TO RWANDA

- 1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED ADVICE COPIES OF SHIPPERS MEMORANDA COVERING HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS AND CANNED FOODSTUFFS SHIPMENTS FOR THE AMBASSADOR AND THE AID COUNTRY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER. MEMORANDA WERE ISSUED BY MOORE-MCCORMACK LINES NOV 8, WITH SHIPMENTS SCHEDULED DEPART BALTIMORE ABOARD SS MORMACVEGA FOR MOMBASA, KENYA. SHIPMENTS WERE CONSIGNED TO MITCHELL COTTS & CO., P.O. BOX 141, MOMBASA, KENYA. THEY THEN TO BE FORWARDED VIA ROAD TO KIGALI.
- 2. AS DEPT AWARE, PREVIOUS SHIPMENTS HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL EFFECTS ORIGINATING U.S. HAVE BEEN FORWARDED VIA SURFACE TO ANTWERP, THEN BY AIR (SABENA) FROM BRUSSELS TO KIGALI. OUR ASSUMPTION WS THAT PRESENT SHIPMENTS WOULD BE ROUTED SAME WAY. EMBASSY CONTINUES BELIEVE THIS MEANS OF SHIPMENT NECESSARY IN ORDER AVOID LONG SHIPPING TIME (UP TO 8 MONTHS) DND EXTREMELY HIGH INCIDENCE PILFERAGE/CONFISCATION/DISAPPEARANCE ON OVERLAND ROUTE MOMBASA/KIGALI VIA UGANDA. WITH OCCASIONAL PROTRACTED CLOSURES UGANDAN BORDER (TWICE THUS FAR THIS YEAR), POSSIBILITY EFFECTS BEING FURTHER DELAYED/PILFERED IS HIGH.
- 3. VIRTUALLY COMPLETE ABSENCE AVAILABILITY HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND FOODSTUFFS LOCAL MARKET CREATES SERIOUS MORALE PROBLEMS WHEN PERSONNEL FORCED AWAIT UNCERTAIN ARRIVAL EFFECTS OVER EXTENDED PERIOD.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED: (A) DEPT REQUESTED REITERATE UNCLASSIFIED

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INSTRUCTIONS DESPATCH AGENTS FOR FORWARDING ALL EFFECTS

ORIGINATING U.S. PORTS VIA BELGIUM FOR AIRFREIGHTING TO RWANDA; (B) ADVISE WHETHER IT POSSIBLE REROUTE EFFECTS DESCRIBED PARA. 1 TO ENABLE AIR SHIPMENT KIGALI FROM EUROPEAN PORT. CRIGLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 07 DEC 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KIGALI

Document Number: 1976KIGALI00958
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760452-0838

From: KIGALI

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Line Count: 65

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION ST Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Original Handling Restrictions: n/a

Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761267/aaaacfqd.tel

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: n/a Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd

Review Content Flags: Review Date: 01 JUN 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <06 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SHIPMENT OF PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS TO RWANDA TAGS: ATRN, RW
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006